

Message Text

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SUBJ: ADDRESS BY SENATOR SYMINGTON ON NUCLEAR PROBLEMS

1. FOLLOWING ARE PASSAGES ADDED BY SENATOR SYMINGTON
TO PREPARED TEXT ON NON-PROLIFERATION AND RELATED NUCLEAR
ISSUES DELIVERED BY HIM ON OPENING DAY OF DISARMAMENT DEBATE
IN FIRST COMMITTEE, OCTOBER 21, 1974. UN PROVISIONAL
VERBATIM TRANSCRIPT IS USED BELOW:

(A) (AFTER CONGRATULATIONS TO CHIARMAN OF COMMITTEE AT
BEGINNING OF ADDRESS)

I SHOULD ALSO RESPECTFULLY COMMEND THE
REPRESENTATIVE OF THE SOVIET UNION, MY FRIEND
AMBASSADOR MALIK, FOR HIS SUPERB STATEMENT. I
WOULD HOPE THAT THE PRESS OF THE UNITED STATES AND
OF THE WORLD GIVE FULL CONSIDERATION TO THE
PROPOSALS AND THE THOUGHTS BEHIND THEM WHICH HE
HAS GIVEN US TODAY.

(REFERENCE IS TO MALIK'S SPEECH ON THE SOVIET
ENVIRONMENTAL MODIFICATION PROPOSAL)

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(B) (INSERTED IN BODY OF TEXT)

I WOULD AT THIS POINT DEVIATE TO MAKE SOME OBSERVATIONS. I DO THIS AS A FORMER ASSISTANT SECRETARY OF WAR, A FORMER SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE, THE RANKING MEMBER OF THE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE, A MEMBER OF THE FOREIGN RELATIONS COMMITTEE AND CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY INSTALLATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE JOINT ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE. THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS COULD BE THE MOST CRITICAL PROBLEM FACING THE WORLD TODAY, AND UNLESS WE HANDLE THAT PROBLEM, IT IS BECOMING INCREASINGLY CLEAR THAT THE PROBLEM WILL HANDLE US.

BY "US" I MEAN ALL THE PEOPLE ON EARTH. ONE MISCALCULATION, ONE SUDDEN TERRORIST ACTIVITY, ONE PARANOID LEADER COULD SET THE SPARK TO A WORLD-WIDE NUCLEAR HOLOCAUST.

THERE ARE NOW SIX MEMBERS OF THE NUCLEAR CLUB--SIX SCORPIONS IN THE BOTTLE INSTEAD OF THE ORIGINAL TWO, AS ONCE DESCRIBED BY A GREAT NUCLEAR SCIENTIST. AND AS EACH MONTH PASSES IT BECOMES EVER MORE PROBABLE THAT SOON THERE MAY WELL BE 20 SCORPIONS IN THE SAID BOTTLE. AT THAT POINT WHAT A VIEW OF THOSE SCORPIONS DECIDE COULD MAKE LITTLE DIFFERENCE.

AS CHAIRMAN OF THE MILITARY APPLICATIONS SUB-COMMITTEE OF THE JOINT ATOMIC ENERGY COMMITTEE OF THE UNITED STATES CONGRESS, I CAN REPORT TO YOU TODAY THAT THE UNITED STATES STOCKPILE OF STRATEGIC AND TACTICAL NUCLEAR WEAPONS IS EQUIVALENT TO 615,385 HIROSHIMA BOMBS, THAT ONE HIROSHIMA A-BOMB KILLED SOME 100,000 PEOPLE. WITH RESPECT TO THE PROLIFERATION OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AROUND THE WORLD, IT IS NO LONGER A SECRET THAT THEY ARE PLACED IN EUROPE, IN THE MIDDLE EAST AND IN THE FAR REST. IN ADDITION, IT IS NO SECRET THAT MANY TYPES OF SHIPS CAN AND DO CARRY NUCLEAR WEAPONS. MOREOVER, SINCE THE SIGNING OF THE SALT AGREEMENT IN 1972, IT SHOULD BE POINTED OUT THAT THE TWO

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SO-CALLED SUPER-POWERS HAVE BEEN ADDING NUCLEAR WEAPONS TO THEIR STOCKPILES EACH DAY OF THE YEAR. COMPOUNDING THIS DILEMMA OF INCREASING STOCKPILES OF NUCLEAR WEAPONS AND THE ADDITION OF MEMBERS TO THE NUCLEAR CLUB IS THE RECENTLY RAPIDLY EXPANDING USE OF NUCLEAR REACTORS TO GENERATE ELECTRIC POWER IN MANY AREAS OF THE WORLD AS MENTIONED.

(C) (AT CONCLUSION OF PREPARED TEXT)

IN CLOSING I WOULD SAY THAT I HAVE BEEN
CONNECTED DIRECTLY OR INDIRECTLY WITH THIS PROBLEM
EVER SINCE THE DAYS OF THE MANHATTAN PROJECT, THE
FIRST EFFORT TO CREAT NUCLEAR ARMS, AND I REPEAT
THAT EITHER WE ARE GOING TO HANDLE THIS PROBLEM
TOGETHER OR THIS PROBLEM IS GOING TO HANDLE US.

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